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TO: Liam Skinner, Superintendent

FROM: Wendy Crocker-Roberge, Assistant Superintendent for Schools & Leadership

DATE: January 9, 2025

RE: *Response to Motion Regarding Middle School Bus Dismissal*

The following report is in response to a motion by Elieen DelRossi:

Request the superintendent to report on the bus dismissal procedure for each middle school's students throughout the district: Are they escorted to the bus by staff? How is each middle school bus dismissal procedure, is each school the same or different?

The bus dismissal procedures follow relative similarity throughout the middle and PK-8 schools but allow for the unique circumstances dictated by the school's dismissal time, the likelihood of late buses, traffic congestion in the area, and the availability of a large space to house students during dismissal.

Students in middle school move independently under staff monitoring to their large school buses as there are multiple bus routes within each classroom and grade level. Students with small bus transportation are escorted according to IEP/504 accommodations if specified.

The following procedures are reported for each school:

Bartlett: There is a staggered release of students PK-8 with middle school students last to come out. Teachers send bus students independently to the bus loading zone with staff hallway supervision at 2:10 PM, followed by the walkers. Buses depart the school building by 2:15 PM.

Butler: Students report to the auditorium for dismissal and buses are called as they arrive. Students walk to the buses waiting out in front of the auditorium. Staff are present for supervision in the auditorium and outside in the loading zone.

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Daley: Bus students exit specific doors by grade level and come up the main driveway. The driveway and bus loading zone are supervised by school staff members. Students board the five buses independently with staff supervision.

Pyne Arts: Walkers are dismissed first followed by bus students. Middle school bus students walk independently to their respective buses in the loading zone while elementary students are escorted by a staff member. For any buses arriving late, which is more common for a 3:30 dismissal school, students wait under the overhang out front with supervision or inside the school's front lobby with supervision, depending on weather conditions and the length of expected delays.

Robinson: Students are called as buses arrive, 2-3 buses at a time. Staff remain in hallways and outside to supervise. For late buses, students wait inside in cold or inclement weather. Once all buses arrive, there is a last call for bus students before buses are released.

Rogers STEM Academy: Staff are on duty in the loading zone. They radio into the office as buses arrive and there is a first call, second call, and final call for all buses. Middle school students walk from their homerooms with staff supervision in the hallways, while elementary students are escorted to their buses.

Stoklosa: There is a bus line that goes out each door by grade level. Staff supervise students in the bus lines in each respective hallway as they line up. When the bell rings, students walk independently to the bus loading zone and staff members provide supervision in the hallways and bus loading zone.

Sullivan: Buses line up behind the school in a singular loop. Students are dismissed concurrently and bus students exit through the rear doors of the school directly to their buses. Staff supervise the hallways and outside as students exit the building and walk to their respective buses in the loading zone.

Wang: Students are dismissed to the buses via the intercom system in the order of arriving buses. For buses arriving after the scheduled dismissal time, or for any buses that have been called in late ahead of time, students are directed to the auditorium and supervised by staff in the auditorium until their buses arrive. Students walk independently to their buses.